

House Research Act Summary

CHAPTER: 58

SESSION: 2013 Regular Session

TOPIC: Banning formaldehyde in children's products

Analyst: Bob Eleff

Date: May 23, 2013

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd/.

Chapter 58 prohibits the sale of children's products that intentionally contain formaldehyde or ingredients that degrade to release formaldehyde. Children's products are defined as those intended to be physically applied to or introduced into the body of a child under eight years of age, excluding food and beverages, toys, pharmaceuticals, and medical devices. Manufacturers and retailers may not offer such products for sale in Minnesota after August 1, 2014; retailers may not do so after August 1, 2015.

Manufacturers are also prohibited from replacing formaldehyde in a children's product with any chemical identified on the basis of credible scientific evidence to have a high degree of probability to be carcinogenic, an endocrine disruptor, a developmental toxicant, or to damage the nervous or immune systems.

The prohibition with respect to offering children's products for sale is effective May 14, 2013. The prohibition with respect to replacement chemicals is effective August 1, 2013.